



Planning & Development Department

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Signs Agreement with First Rest Stop Provider

Today, the City of Eugene signed an agreement with Community Supported Shelters to supervise the first site in the Permitted Overnight Sleeping Pilot Program that will be located on city-owned property at Roosevelt and Garfield. The Pilot Program allows up to 15 persons to sleep overnight in tents. It is anticipated that Community Supported Shelters will open the site to campers starting in early December.

Along with an Administrative Order, the agreement outlines the responsibilities of the site provider including:

- Ensuring the site is supervised at all times;
- Providing clean, portable restrooms and trash collection on site;
- Keeping a roster of individuals who are allowed on the site; and
- Ensuring all campers and visitors follow the site rules.

Alcohol and illegal drugs will not be allowed on the site. The rules also prohibit any physical violence or threatening behavior, weapons, open flames, loud music or noise, and overnight visitors.

The City of Eugene and Lane County continue to experience high numbers of homelessness and housing insecurity. Despite on-going and dedicated, publicly and privately-supported homeless services in our community, the demand for emergency shelter continues to exceed supply.

As a community, Eugene has prioritized helping people who experience homelessness. In addition to on-going human services funding, over the last year the City of Eugene has:

- Expanded the car camping program to accommodate more people and added Conestoga Huts to the program;
- Provided a site for Opportunity Village, a transitional micro-housing facility for 30-40 homeless individuals and couples; and
- Funded emergency winter strategies with \$225,000 of one-time funding to bolster existing services for people who are homeless, or in jeopardy of becoming homeless.

In response to the growing need for safe place for people to sleep, the Eugene City Council approved a rest stop pilot program in late October.

Community Supported Shelters is a community-based, non-profit organization that is dedicated to developing affordable micro-housing solutions. They will be contacting neighboring businesses and residents prior to the Roosevelt site opening. To learn more visit their website at <http://communitysupportedshelters.org>.

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